

Optus World Soccer Series

February 1998

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Full team lists and info inside



AUSTRALIA



JAPAN



CHILE



SOUTH KOREA

Plus Aussie Soccer: Life after Death

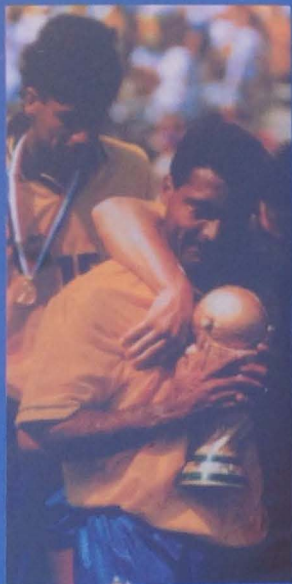
This great game of ours

Soccer fans across the country were spewing about the Iran result and let us assure you that no one was more devastated than the team from The Score.

Our first edition, which sold out before the game, was written completely as if we had already qualified. That these will one day be collectors items is little consolation, but we have picked ourselves up off the floor to bring you our second edition because that game proved to us how great soccer is.

No sport has united the country and put on such a passionate, euphoric event in a long, long time. People from all ethnic backgrounds got behind the Aussie team and it went off. Anyone who was there will never forget the way Advance Australia Fair was sung. Pure magic.

Some predicted that the loss on the park would set the local game back a long way. This does not appear to be the case. All of sudden people are queuing up to get behind soccer.



The penny has finally dropped, soccer is the biggest sport in the world and the most played in Australia (except for maybe netball). It is now a matter of when, not if, soccer becomes the biggest sport down under.

Come June the greatest sportsmen in the world will come together and for four weeks the world will seem a bit smaller as the biggest viewing audience for anything ever sits glued to the telly. With an expanded competition of 32 teams, a mega-feast of soccer is coming our way from the biggest and best sporting event on earth.

We are privileged to have 3 teams who have qualified for France playing in this series. Of course Australia is in rebuilding mode, and it is encouraging to see that a number of new players have made the team.

With help from the team from 'Studs Up' we have brought you all the info

you need on the teams as well as plenty of information and laughs.

We are still supporting the formation of an Aussie Soccer Supporters Club.

The greatest sport just gets better and The Score is happy to be a part of it. Enjoy the match.



Posh
Spice
says:
"Beckham
is no good
in the box"



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IN OUT

Duncan Ferguson

South Melbourne's
travelling support

Noel Gallagher
(oasis) offering to
buy Maldini for
Man. City

Tubthumping

John Coombs

Coopers dark Ale

Juventus

Soccer International
magazine

Having no first
touch

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In a desperate attempt to keep his ailing businesses afloat, Australian coach Terry Venables agrees to a sinister pact with the Ayatollah. Milan Ivanovic on the bench in return for unlimited petrodollars.

Follow to the action to its rivetting conclusion.

Will Ivanovic anchor the Aussie defence or will the forces of darkness triumph on a crazy, fateful night at the MCG?

World's No.1 Bestselling Author

OUR DARKEST HOUR AND A HALF

Score health warning: If mention of events at the MCG 29/11/97 stirs up dark emotions you have been trying to keep down ever since, do not read this article.

Soccer deals up a fair amount of unfair results but you have never seen a team dominate a game to that degree and not win. It is not an exaggeration to say that before Bosnich saved from Mahdivikia in the 68th minute, Iran had not put one move together. After they scored the second they didn't do anything either.

We were told we were getting the world's number one referee (although it came out afterwards that he was suspended from refereeing in Europe because he was so bad). Anyway, Blind Freddy could have seen that Azizi was cut the ball back to Bagheri for Iran's first goal. There was a bit of luck there for Iran anyway as the ball ricocheted to Azizi from Moore's attempted clearance.

Then there was that feral idiot who tore the net down. Opinions differ as to how much blame for the disaster that followed can be attributed to this one clown's actions but 2 things are certain. He didn't help matters and if he ever shows his ugly face at a soccer match in Australia again, he's f**ked.

And hopefully the MCG has since sacked the dickhead who played Queen's "We are the Champions" at the end of the game.

At that point it was like a dark cloud had descended on the lives of all those present as they hurried away from the scene of the crime, not saying much at all. If something this bad, this unthinkable, could happen then maybe we could all be wiped out in a nuclear war. It was the end of certainty.

It would be wrong however to put it all down to bad luck or mysterious forces. There were concrete factors working against us.

1. We were underdone. It's hard to believe that an in-form Aurelio Vidmar wouldn't have put away one of the three sitters he blew in the opening 15 minutes.

2. We aren't as good as we thought we were.

3. Venables not being based here worked against us.

4. Ivanovic. This writer has watched the Adelaide City sweeper regularly over the past 5 years and his biggest asset is his ability to read the play. The pass that caught Horvat out

for the second goal is exactly the sort of thing he eats for breakfast.

5. It is a tired point but one worth repeating. Why at 2-0 up didn't we bring on an extra defender?

But we were bloody unlucky.

It was hard on everybody and it is particularly sad to think that some of the great players of our era-Slater, Ivanovic, Arnold-will never play at the World Cup finals.

There's not much more to say except, dear me,



"it came out afterwards that the ref was suspended from officiating in Europe because he is so bad"

Terry Venables

Flawed Legend

By the time Terry Venables gave the post match interview after the victory over New Zealand after his first game in charge, Australia had fallen in love.

Firstly he had the Socceroos playing successful positive soccer, a great leap forward itself from the Eddie Thomson era. As he gave his view of the match to Kyle Patterson the rest of the Venables package came to the fore. The chirpy cockney character with the cheeky smile. From the beginning David Hill's gamble appeared to be sound.

From this point until the MCG game critics of Venables were very hard to find. The controversy that surrounded his appointment faded quickly. We realised we had a coach who could take the lads all the way to France-some were even talking about the second round-and bring the media and a new wave of fans along as well.

Since November opinions have been divided over whether Venables should stay or go. In the go camp are those who can never forgive the omission of Milan Ivanovic at sweeper for the Iran games or Tel's failure to sub on an extra defender when we went 2-0 up. His supporters quite rightly point out that he got Australia playing its best soccer ever and was an integral part of the game's rising popularity over the last 12 months.

This writer doesn't mind saying that he was initially suss about the appointment of Venables. (It's true-ask my mates). His potential to be good for soccer was not in question. I had still not gotten over how, when England's semi-final in Euro '96 against Germany came down to penalties he left Liverpool's ace penalty taker Robbie Fowler on the bench when he still had a sub up his



sleeve. Gareth Southgate stroked a back pass at the German keeper and England had another glorious defeat to add to the list.

The echoes in Australia's World Cup campaign were stunning. Australia like England were playing their best soccer in a long time but when ultimate glory beckoned Terry stuck with the team he had instead of making the right changes. If England win the World Cup this year much credit will be due to Venables who handed Glen Hoddle on a very strong team. In future we will expect whoever is coaching the Socceroos to build on the attractive attacking style that Venables introduced.

If you can bring yourself to watch the tape, the first 15 minutes of the MCG game is 15 minutes of some of the most exhilarating football you will ever see. It is the classic Venables style. Pressuring and tackling hard in the midfield and moving it quickly to one of the options up front. These options were increased by the visionary role in which Venables played Aurelio Vidmar, which had Iran at sixes and sevens. The plan worked perfectly and Venables must have wished he was on the park to tap in one of the many golden chances his game plan created.

If Venables hasn't resigned by the time you are reading this, he will do so soon.

Having recently been found guilty of seventeen corruption charges in the UK it hasn't been the best couple of months. Somehow though you know his smiling face will turn up coaching a big name side and maybe even finish the job off.



Chile

Coach: Nelson Acosta



- ☐ Nelson Tapia
- ☐ Marcelo Ramirez
- ☐ Francisco Rojas
- ☐ Pedro Reyes
- ☐ Ronald Fuentes
- ☐ Javier Margas
- ☐ Rafael Olarra
- ☐ Paolo Vivar
- ☐ Jorge Gomez
- ☐ Luis Fuentes
- ☐ Nelson Parraguez
- ☐ Rodrigo Valenzuela
- ☐ Moises Villarroel
- ☐ Marcelo Vega
- ☐ Clarence Acuna
- ☐ Pablo Galdames
- ☐ Fernand Cobreloa
- ☐ Jose Luis Sierra
- ☐ Juan Carreno
- ☐ Manuel Neira
- ☐ Claudio Nunez
- ☐ Rodrigo Barrera
- ☐ Marcelo Salas
- ☐ Ivan Zamarano

Chile: World Ranking :

16

Chile arrived in Australia with a cloud over the availability of twin gun strikers Zamorano and Salas.

Due to their efforts Chile were top goalscorers in the South American qualifying group, despite finishing fourth.

As we went to print, noises were still being made that both players would definately be here, but the sceptics remain to be convinced.

Either way Australian fans should remember most of the Chilean squad from the Antofagasta fiasco, with Ronald Fuentes, Javier Margas, Marcelo Vega, Nelson Parraguez and Claudio Nunez still commanding a regular presence in the first eleven.



Chile, Korea and Japan write-ups are supplied by the team from Studs UP: The Australian Fans Perspective.

For a copy of the latest edition send 3x95c stamps to:

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South Oakleigh
Victoria 3167

Despite qualifying for France, coach Nelson Acosta is not convinced about a number of players who got them there and has signalled a desire to bring on some of the players he experimented with during last year's Copa America.

Chile still uses a quick passing, pressing style of play and relies on the strikers to take full advantage of the fast break opportunities, but they conceded some really dumb goals during the World Cup qualifiers and if our strikers take the chances that will inevitably come their way then we could see a comfortable victory for the hosts.

But if Salas and Zamorano come it will be a different story. Jetlagged or not.

It's a funny old game

After getting up to beat the Aussies, the Iranian players were rewarded with their own prayer session with the Ayatollah.

What did their coach Vierra Valdier get?

He got the sack! And he says he is still owed money!

South Korea



Coach: Cha, Bum Kun



- ☐ Kim, Byung Ji
- ☐ Seo, Dong Mung
- ☐ Lee, Ki Hyung
- ☐ Choi, Sung Yong
- ☐ Kim, Jung Heok
- ☐ Kim, Hak Chol
- ☐ Kim, Tae Young
- ☐ Choi, Young Il
- ☐ Lee, Min Sung
- ☐ Jang, Dae Il
- ☐ Yoo, Sang Chul
- ☐ Cho, Sae Kwon

- ☐ Yoon, Jong Hwan
- ☐ Ko, Jong Soo
- ☐ Lee, Sang Yoon
- ☐ Yang, Hyun Jung
- ☐ Sin, Byoung Ho
- ☐ Park, Byung Joo
- ☐ Seo, Dong Won
- ☐ Choi, Yong Soo
- ☐ Gwak, Kyung Keun
- ☐ Sung, Han Soo
- ☐ Suh, Dong Won
- ☐ Jin, Soon Jin

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Japan and South Korea will co-host the 2002 World Cup.

South Korea World Ranking: 27

It was twelve months ago in Melbourne that South Korea, under new Coach Cha Bum Kun, began to erase the nightmare of the 1996 Asian Cup finals.

The 6-2 quarter final defeat at the hands of Iraq is now all but forgotten as Korea have qualified (in style) for France and now look to put the finishing touches to the final squad.

1997 was an impressive year for Korea, with an excellent display against Brazil in August and a romp through the WC qualifiers to complete a year with only three defeats (Brazil, Japan, Australia) and a boost in their FIFA ranking from 44 to 27.

But regional success counts for little these days and after numerous false starts at the top level, the Koreans (drawn with Holland, Belgium and Mexico) must progress to the second round in France if Asian football is to be taken seriously at world level.

To kickstart the program, they began an intensive training camp in Ulsan on January 5 so we can expect them to be fit enough by the time they get here, although their result against New Zealand on February 7 may provide further guide on that score.

South Korea head to NZ having safely negotiated their way to the final of the Kings Cup tournament in Thailand.

After an opening day loss to Denmark, consecutive victories over Egypt and the hosts saw them finish top of the group table and into the final against Egypt.

They will arrive in Oz with a squad familiar to those who took a keen interest in last year's OWSS, with the only major omission being star sweeper Hong Myong-Bo.

All the gun strikers will be here though, meaning Tobin and co could be in for a torrid afternoon.

Support Aussie Soccer



Go Aussie!

THE NEXT GENERATION

Olyroos vs Brazillian Olympic team

Sunday March 15-Perth

Thursday March 19 Adelaide

Saturday March 21 Adelaide

The Score

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Australia

Coach: Terry Venables

- ☐ Zeljko Kalac
- ☐ Jason Petkovic
- ☐ Alex Tobin
- ☐ Milan Ivanovic
- ☐ Matthew Bingley
- ☐ Mark Babic
- ☐ Paul Bilokapic
- ☐ Dominic Longo
- ☐ Fausto de Amicis
- ☐ Robbie Hooker
- ☐ Ernie Tapai
- ☐ Bill Damianos
- ☐ Bret Emerton
- ☐ Troy Halpin
- ☐ Goran Lozanovski
- ☐ Gabriel Mendez
- ☐ Abbas Saad
- ☐ Kris Trajanovski
- ☐ Paul Trimboli
- ☐ John Markovski

Life After Death

"I get knocked down, but I get up again, and you're never gonna keep me down"

The 20 Australian players chosen for this tournament, essentially by Raul Blanco, are a curious mixture of the old and the new, reflecting the confusion in Aussie Soccer at the moment. When originally planned this tournament would have been part of our France campaign. As it is, the coaching staff seem as confused as anyone as to whether we should be fielding our strongest 11, or planning for the future.

Damian Mori appears to have been a casualty of this confusion, being left out of the team "because we know what he is capable of, we want to have a look at others" (Blanco). As Mori was a member of the full strength Socceroo squad for the Confederations Cup and is set to top the scorers list in the Ericsson Cup again this year, his omission was bound to be controversial. However in Saudi Arabia Mori proved that he will never be a member of a full strength Socceroo team. So what is the purpose of playing him in a tournament such as this? Why not give other players a run as part of planning our next World Cup campaign?

We realise this raises questions about the value and role of friendly tournaments like this one for a country that has its 10 of its best starting 11 playing on the other side of the world. These questions merit further discussion but space does not permit us to

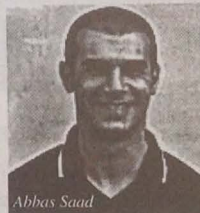
get into them here.

The return of several players to the green and gold is one area of interest. Goran Lozanovski is threatening to

live up the potential he has always shown on the right of midfield. Many people are following the fortunes of the new slimline John Markovski.

There is no doubting the man's ability as a forward. He has great control and a deadly shot. However he doesn't seem to have yet shaken of the moodiness and dirty play that always held him back as much as the extra kilos he carried around the middle. Abbas Saad might have played a lot more internationals had he not been caught up in match rigging while playing in Singapore.

The presence of old timers Trimboli, Tapai, Tobin and Ivanovic gives the squad some continuity and will insure against embarrassing results against teams starting to hit their straps for the World Cup. But they will not be around forever and this tournament presents an opportunity for those who can take it to put themselves in the picture for future campaigns.



Abbas Saad

Japan venture down under with a bloated party of 29, which coach Takeshi Okada hopes to trim to 22 by the time the Kirin Cup comes around in May.

Japan have had a dodgy time of things over the past eighteen or so months, with the J-League lurching from crisis to crisis, and the national team - after appearing in loads of prestige friendless (Umbro etc) during 1995/96 - spending most of 1997 in Asia.

They couldn't keep pace with South Korea in the World Cup qualifiers when it counted but deserved a play-off spot when the UAE's challenge died.

Their play-off with Iran could've gone either way but they survived and now face the prospect of confronting Argentina, Croatia and Jamaica in Group H of the first stage of the World Cup finals.

It is a prospect that doesn't seem to faze coach Takeshi Okada, who reckons his team will be the surprise packet in France '98.

"If we get the right tactics and good team spirit then that is likely to happen" crowed Okada.

Expect those 'tactics' to include a 4-4-2 formation when they take on Australia, but the make-up of the team itself will still lean solidly towards experimentation, with the likelihood of the 'first eleven' taking the park appearing remote.

Japan: World Rankings:



BUT, if Okada gives his first team a run then look out for some top talent. The naturalised Brazilian Wagner Lopes is one to watch and if his partnership with Miura blossoms, then we could see a repeat of the Woollongong disaster a couple of years back.

Also, check out Hidetoshi Nakata, who can REALLY distribute the ball. So, can Japan be the surprise packet in France?

Maybe, but unless they can dismantle the home-based Australians then the jury won't be convinced.



Coach: Takeshi Okada

- ☐ N. Kojima
- ☐ H Okanaka
- ☐ Y Kawaguchi
- ☐ S Narazaki
- ☐ M Ihara
- ☐ N Omura
- ☐ Y Akita
- ☐ T Nakamura
- ☐ S Nakamura
- ☐ K Miura
- ☐ M Nakayama
- ☐ W Lopes
- ☐ M Okano
- ☐ S Jo
- ☐ A Yanagisawa
- ☐ T Hirano
- ☐ H Nakata

Japan



- ☐ N Soma
- ☐ A Narahashi
- ☐ T Saito
- ☐ E Nakanishi
- ☐ H Suzuki
- ☐ T Kitazawa
- ☐ M Yamaguchi
- ☐ Y Honda
- ☐ H Morishima
- ☐ H Nanami
- ☐ T Hattori
- ☐ T Masuda

HINDMARSH STADIUM

best soccer ground in Oz

Hindmarsh Stadium's new grandstand has cemented its place as Australia's premier soccer ground, if this was ever in doubt.

The new stand will be officially opened during this series at the Australia-Japan game. It has been open to the public at Ericsson Cup games for the last 2 months and The Score is pleased to be able to report that it is a world class facility. Seats are not too cramped and are on a relatively steep slope giving all spectators a great view. This is particularly the case on the top deck which I will go on record as saying is the best view I have ever had of a sports ground. I could see every blade of grass on the pitch and still felt close to the action.

The grandstand cost \$9.13 million and includes better change rooms, improved bar and catering services and a bigger press-box. The stand itself seats 5400 and has increased Hindmarsh's capacity to 15 000.



New Stand at Hindmarsh 1997

It looks really good as well. Very stylish and modern with big steel cantilevers supporting the roof (eliminating annoying columns). It's almost like being at Old Trafford or the San Siro. Well as close as you'll get in Oz anyway.

The ground where the stadium now stands was originally a neglected paddock known to locals as Lindsay Circus. It began to change in the late 1800s when a bowling green and gardens sprouted up. These were succeeded in 1905 by the Hindmarsh Oval, home to the local football and cricket clubs and at various times baseball, boxing and wrestling tournaments.

It was in 1960, with the oval being used only by lower grade football and cricket teams, that the SA Soccer Federation approached Hindmarsh Council about the use of the ground. The deal was done and the



Pelé at Hindmarsh 1993. Old stand in background

ground renamed Hindmarsh Stadium. The days of the great migrant boom were a period of great popularity for soccer in South Australia. A time when a big local league fixture between say Campbelltown Budapest and Beograd was likely to pull a crowd of 15000+.

Originally only West Adelaide played their national league games there with City using the Olympic Sports field at Kensington on the other side of town. However with that ground having a running track and very little seating it was only a matter of time before City moved across town in the mid-1980s guaranteeing a national league game at Hindmarsh every week.

The extra business paved the way for some

"SOCCER DAY OF FEAR"

screamed the Sunday Mail on October 18th 1981.

The match was the play-off for third and fourth place at Hindmarsh between England and Romania at the 1981 World Youth Cup finals. Romania, depleted by the defection of one of their players, triumphed 1-0 in front of a crowd of 12, 429 which included a large colourful English contingent.

Despite it being the skinhead heyday the game seemed to pass without incident so it was a surprise when the Sunday paper had the story of soccer violence splashed across the front page.

The shocking details included

"Youths, some as young as 10, ran in packs along residential streets after the match", and our favourite:

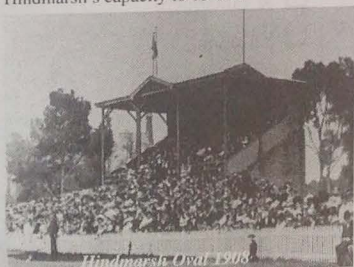
"Police made further arrests at Adelaide railway station when about 50 youths stormed out of the station, brushing aside terrified commuters".

significant improvements and the ground has come along a treat in the 90s with new light towers being put in and the entire eastern side terraces being seated.

We are told that another upgrade will begin at the end of this season involving seating behind the goals and another level of seating along the eastern side, to be ready in time for the Olympics. That would put Hindmarsh well in front of the pack of Australian soccer grounds.

For the time being what we have now will do just fine. Congratulations are due to the SA Soccer Federation for getting this magnificent new stand built. Complimented by Hindmarsh's always impeccable playing surface it makes watching Soccer at the ground a magic experience.

The challenge is well and truly out for the eastern States to top this one.



Hindmarsh Oval 1905

The National Soccer League

What is to be done?

The National Soccer League/Ericsson Cup is good value this year with an exciting finish to the regular season guaranteed. At this stage 12 out of the 14 teams are capable of finishing in the top six. The smart money for the title is on Sydney United, South Melbourne or Adelaide City.

Quality in the national league continues to be affected by the player drain to Europe but there are still plenty of great players playing here keeping the crowds entertained. The Monday Soccer show on SBS always provides plenty of great viewing.

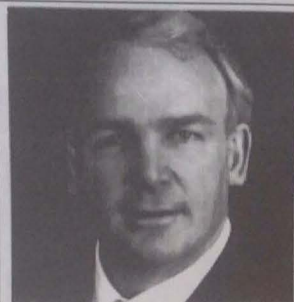
However watching this show or reading the soccer media you can pick up the frustration that the Ericsson Cup is not having a big impact on the sporting public. Crowds at games average just over 5000 and this figure is pulled up by Perth Glory who regularly attract 15000+ to home games.

The history of the national soccer league is 20 years of tinkering at the edges, trying to improve the league's standard and popularity, none of which has had much impact. And so next season we'll have the introduction of a new team, Northern Spirit from Sydney's north shore and the culling of one team, perhaps Gippsland.

Quit farting around, the time has come for clear thinking and bold action if the game is going to really go mega.

Two main areas need addressing if crowds are to improve.

The first is the quality of the soccer on the park. This has to be above a certain level if people are going to part with 12 or 15 bucks to go into the ground. People want to be entertained and excited at a game they paid to see and all too often this is not the case. Reducing the number of teams to 10, and everyone play each other 4 times in a 36 match season, is the way to go. It is not perfect and it will be controversial but it's the quickest way to improve the



Soccer Australia chairman David Hill has decided to run as a Labor candidate at the next federal election. He says he will stay on as chairman.

The benefits of the reforms he has made are yet to be fully felt but there is no way he can continue to put in the same effort in future. The voices calling for him to move on are getting louder. Watch this space

standard of soccer.

Increasing players' wages must be a priority as well. We are not far away now from being able to make it financially attractive for players like Robert Enes or Danny Tiatto to play in our league rather than a European second division. By the time you factor in the increased cost of living in Europe and the positives of staying here (language, family, mates, beaches) we are very close to being able to keep most of the foreign legion here. Superstars like Lazaridis will still have to go to Europe where they can play at the top level and some lads will head off to the Belgian second division hoping to be discovered but even this is becoming less nec-

essary as top clubs are scouting directly from Australia.

After quality comes publicity.

As we said, the SBS Monday soccer show is excellent viewing but it must be remembered that SBS is watched by only 2% of viewers. Our season runs through the non-ratings period. If 'FX The Series' and 'Paradise Beach' re-runs can make it in to commercial telly over summer then there is definitely room for a well edited hour of Ericsson Cup highlights.

Overall promotion of the game needs a real kick up the bum. While researching this article I was shocked to discover that Soccer Australia does not even have its own website.

Money is of course a big part of all this. We are hearing talk of business tycoons wanting to invest money in the game and plenty of it will be needed to finance a growth period. But there is plenty to be made as well. Soccer is the sport most played by blokes and with women's leagues continuing to grow the potential is certainly there.

But financiers and sponsors want to see more than tinkering at the edges before parting with the big bucks. We are proposing a ten point plan as the basis for reform of the national league.

A word of warning. If there is to be an effort to make the game a popular and commercial success then there must be a plan in place to keep young people interested in the game and to provide them with the best coaching and facilities possible. If money is coming into the game then it must filter down to a grass-roots level where the future of the game is.

For proof of this look no further than 2 of the world's most successful clubs, Man United and Ajax Amsterdam. Both have built huge youth team networks. Any investment made has been more than repaid by the large number of players who have come through their youth systems to become 1st team regulars in their multi-trophy winning sides.

The Score's 10 point plan to save the National League

A 10 team national league. Could be expanded in several years time once support is built up.

Soccer program on commercial television.

Players' wages increased.

Improved marketing, including group discounts for local teams who attend matches together.

Formation of a soccer supporters club.

A domestic knockout cup played throughout the season which includes top state league teams, making giant-killing cup runs possible.

Top Australian clubs to play top Asian clubs in competitions like European Cup & Cup Winners Cup.

Elimination of violence at national league games.

Continual focus on grass-roots youth development.

Improved standard of refereeing



"My Government is firmly united behind the 10-point plan."

Towards Better Australian Soccer Songs

Paper delivered to 13th Australian Conference on Getting Carried Away at SportingEvents

The recent World Cup fixture at the MCG brought to light serious deficiencies in Aussie fans' ability to come up with a good tune.

In a way Socceros fans are lucky they didn't qualify for France '98. For it is quite likely they would have found themselves in the embarrassing situation of travelling to games with only 'Ole-Ole-Ole' and 'Aussie-Aussie-Aussie' in their songbooks.

Let me say at the outset that this still puts them ahead of crowds at other sporting codes. I the Ashes tour of 94-95 when the cricket yobboes on the Adelaide Oval Hill, coming under a sustained attack from the Barmy Army of the old convict-line 'We've come here with our back packs but we'll leave with a ball and chain', could only sadly reply with '2-4-6-8 pommy wankers masturbate'.

This lack of good tunes is not a new situation. These have been all we've heard from our crowds for a while now. There was a time when you would hear Liverpool's 'You'll Never Walk Alone' at any big game. Committed fans of Everton, Man United, Juventus and in fact anyone who seriously followed another club always had a problem with this. Which didn't matter as there were enough Liverpool supporters and other hangers-on to carry the tune. However with the onset of these lean years at Anfield, finding enough people who know this one is getting harder.

At that this point that I must plead guilty to being part of the crowd of Anglophiles supporting Everton against the Socceros at Olympic park in 1986 who actually chanted 'Doctor

Martens Boots'. My excuse is that I am a life-long Evertonian who got caught up in the moment. I recall the best song that night paid homage to one of the heroes of 80s soccer who never got all the credit he deserved: 'He's fat, he's round, he's worth a million pound, Peter Reid, Peter Reid'. And that was in the days when being traded for a million pounds in the English league meant you were a good player.

A good football song communicates both love of one's chosen team and something about the character of the fans. This combination was perfectly captured on the terraces at Millwall in the 1980s with their signature tune (to the tune of Rod Stewart's sailing) 'We are Millwall(x2) no one likes us, we don't care'.

There is a special category of song designed to ridicule, offend and racially stereotype the opposition. Special mention here must go to

whoever it was in Sydney's Bay 23 Boys who started up 'There's Only One Salman Rushdie' in the Cricketers Arms before the Iran game.

Countries with strong soccer cultures are fortunate to have popular song writers put their love of the national side into song like The Lightning Seeds doing '3 Lions' for England or Ireland's Pogues doing 'Jack's Heroes'. Our most notable soccer fan-musician is Damien Lovelock of The Celibates Rifles and it's hard to imagine a surfer-grunge soccer tune translating well to the terraces.

So that leaves it up to the fans to come up with a good song by the time of our next big international.

Congratulations to whoever started up 'There's Only One Salman Rushdie'



Scotland



Norway



Italy



Chile



South Africa



France



Paraguay



Spain



Morocco



Brazil



Cameroon



Austria



Denmark



Saudi Arabia



Nigeria



Bulgaria



Korea



Mexico



USA



Yugoslavia



Romania



England



Argentina



Jamaica



Belgium



Netherlands



Germany



Iran



Colombia



Tunisia



Japan



Croatia

HERE WE GO



Advance Australia Fair

*Australians all let us rejoice
For we are young and free
We've golden soil
And wealth for toil
Our home is girt by sea*

*Our land abounds
In nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare
In history's page
Let every stage
Advance Australia Fair*

*In joyous strains
Then let us sing
Advance Australia Fair*



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